

NEWS BRIEFS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Fremont Giving Hope Holiday Giving Program – Help Spread Holiday Cheer

Join us now through December 13 to help

Giving Hope Holiday Program is celebrating its 20th year

For 20 years, the Fremont community has come together to bring cheer to those in need at the holidays through the City of Fremont Human Services Department Giving Hope Program. This program invites members of the community to help families, seniors, and seniors with pet companions in need by sponsoring a wish list or making a donation. In 2018 alone, the community came together to help 310 individuals and 45 companion animals by bringing in over \$104,000 worth of gifts and financial donations. This was possible due to the generosity of the Fremont community. We invite you to join us in spreading holiday cheer.



Giving Hope is a reminder that our community cares!

Giving Hope helps raise the spirits of its neighbors in need by providing gifts from a personalized wish list and grocery cards to children, seniors, and families who are struggling. Low-income seniors with pets also receive supplies and treats for beloved companions. Children and students supported by the program receive the learning supplies they need to succeed. By shopping for a personalized wish list, you show your neighbors in need you care.

Are you ready to shop?

If you like to shop, contact Jane O'Hollaren at the City of Fremont's Family Resource Center and you will be provided with the personalized wish list of a family, senior, or senior with pet companion. Then purchase



gifts, including a grocery gift card, and return all the items to the City of Fremont's drop off spots by December 13, 2019. Please plan to spend \$100 per individual on the list.

Not a Shopper?

If you're not a shopper yet still want to help, you can make a financial contribution. Contributions are used to buy gifts for wish lists without a sponsor. After the holidays, we apply money not spent on gifts to the Human Service Department's urgent needs fund. This flexible funding allows us to help with critical needs our clients may be facing all year long, which are not covered under governmental program guidelines. In the past, these funds helped in many ways, for example:

- Providing a grocery gift card to a family in which the sole breadwinner has recently lost their job
- Acquiring transportation vouchers for a mother and child who need to get to urgent medical care
- Placing a homeless family into a hotel while a care manager negotiates space in a shelter for them
- Purchasing necessary medication or medical equipment for a senior whose fixed income just wouldn't stretch

Donations to Giving Hope are deductible to the extent allowable. The City of Fremont's Tax ID Number is 94-6027361. In January, the City of Fremont will send letters of gratitude acknowledging all donations. To make a financial contribution through our secure website online, visit www.Fremont.gov/GivingHopeDonate.

Please contact Paula Manczuk-Hannay, Development Officer, for more information about Giving Hope or other ways you can help those served by the City of Fremont Human Services Department. Paula can be reached at 510-574-2049 or PManczuk-Hannay@Fremont.gov.

Supporting Fremont's Temporary Housing Navigation Center

As part of the City of Fremont's strategic approach to addressing the growing homeless crisis, the City is opening a temporary Housing Navigation Center (HNC) located in the rear parking lot of City Hall, 3300 Capitol Ave. The HNC is an innovative approach to help those experiencing homelessness find housing while providing a clean, safe, and calm environment so participants can focus on finding stable, permanent housing. The HNC is anticipated to open in mid-2020.

The temporary Housing Navigation Center aims to be a welcoming and private environment for the participants and an integrated part of Fremont's new downtown. The City invites the community to be part of making the HNC a success; community members can support the HNC in a variety of ways including monetary donations, donating items from the HNC wish list, or volunteering on service days. All donations are tax-deductible. For more information and to make a donation visit www.Fremont.gov/HNCDonate.



Attend Fremont's Free Fixit Clinic on November 19

The first monthly Fixit Clinic residency starts Tuesday, November 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library's new Archimedes Maker Space, located at 2400 Stevenson Blvd.

Fixit Clinics are staffed by volunteer Fixit Coaches who generously share their time, tools, and expertise to consult with participants on the disassembly, troubleshooting, and repair of items. Bring any non-functioning electronic gadgets, small appliances, computers, toys, sewing machines, bicycles, fabric items, etc., for assessment, disassembly, and possible repair. Fixit Clinics are open to all ages.



Fixit Coaches (and helpful neighbors) will be available for consultation on broken items. The workspace, specialty tools, and guidance will be provided to help participants disassemble and troubleshoot their item.

Whether you fix it or not, you'll learn more about how it was manufactured, and leave with new skills and a sense that reuse and repair beats the landfill any day.

To sign up visit <https://goo.gl/forms/39NBTO65essMhmYJ3>.

The Fixit Clinic series is sponsored by the Alameda County Library System, StopWaste (www.stopwaste.org), and the City of Fremont.

Fixit Coaches needed for Fremont Library's New Maker Space

Fremont's first monthly Fixit Clinic residency starts Tuesday, November 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library's new Archimedes Maker Space, 2400 Stevenson Blvd.

Fixit Coaches are needed to ensure the program's success. First-time Fixit Coaches and fixing families are always welcome! No big time commitment.

To sign up visit <http://bit.ly/fixitcoachsignup>, and select "2019-11-19 Fremont Main Library Fixit Clinic Residency."

Being a Fixit Coach is easy. Simply provide participants with encouragement to investigate their broken item and guidance with tools. Be a listener more than a repairer; let participants talk about how they used the item and how it broke—that often provides valuable



hints as to what's wrong. See how much you can do without actually handling the item. Empower the item's owner to do the troubleshooting and disassembly. Move among items and consult with others to cross-train and maximize transfer of knowledge for everybody—including you!

Event founder Peter Mui and the volunteer Fixit Clinic coaches generously donate their time and tools to the program, and more volunteers are always needed.

Information on upcoming Bay Area Fixit Clinics is posted on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pg/FixitClinic/events.

The Fixit Clinic series is sponsored by the Alameda County Library System, StopWaste (www.stopwaste.org) and the City of Fremont.

Thanksgiving Break Camps

Keep your child engaged this Thanksgiving Break with the City of Fremont school break camps. Camps take place November 25-27 with full day, half day, and extended care options. For information, visit www.Fremont.gov/Camps or call 510-494-4300.



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